

SN. 10/635,720

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. MATS:027A

REMARKS

Claims 28-52 are now pending in this application for which applicants seek reconsideration.

Amendment

The specification has been amended to adopt the changes made in the parent application, namely correcting minor errors. Claims 28-44 and 48-52 have been amended to improve their form. Claims 51 and 52 further have been amended to recite that the vibrator is made of magnetic material to define over the art of record. All other changes to the claims relate to improving their form and not narrowing the scope thereof. No new matter has been introduced.

Allowable Claims

Claims 28-47 and 50 have been allowed. Although these claims have been allowed, they have been amended to improve their form and language, without changing the scope thereof. Accordingly, these claims are still allowable over the art of record.

Art Rejection

Claims 48 and 51 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Denne (USP 5,440,183). Remaining claims 49 and 52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Denne in view of Ishikawa (USP 5,160,447). The examiner's reasons for allowance clearly state that prior art does not teach a tubular vibrator made of magnetic material. As claims 51 and 52 have been amended to recite that the tubular vibrator is made of magnetic material, these claims define over the applied references. Claim 48 now depends from allowed claim 28, and claim 49 depends from claim 48. Accordingly, the present amendment obviates these rejections.

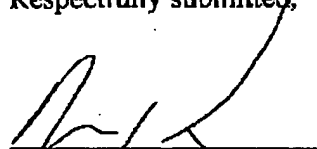
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Conclusion

Applicants submit that claims 28-52 are all in condition for allowance, and thus urge the examiner to issue an early Notice of Allowance. Should the examiner have any issues concerning this reply or any other outstanding issues remaining in this application, applicants urge the examiner to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marc A. Rossi  
Registration No. 31,923

ROSSI & ASSOCIATES  
P.O. Box 826  
Ashburn, VA 20146-0826  
Phone: 703-726-6020